Kashmiri migrants keeps fluctuating, which affects the financial requirements for the payment of relief. Out of the funds released by the State Government, relief has been disbursed upto March, 1993. The State Government has been advised to assure that payment of relief to eligible persons for the period thereafter is made expeditiously.

Cases of Assaults on Journalists

2883. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently directed the State Governments to ensure prompt registrations and investigation of cases relating to attacks on journalists and also to take action against erring officials;

(b) whether the assault on Journalists have been rising since the past few years in the country;

(c) Whether Government propose to formulate any policy to provide security to Journalists in the interest of the freedom of Press; and

(d) If so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are included in List II- State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. Consequently, the State Governments concerned are primarily responsible for taking action to create the Proper security environment for those living in their area. No data relating to assault on journalists are maintained by Central authorities.

Hazard Due to Accumulation of Firewood

2884. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Fire Officer (Connaught Place) New Delhi submitted repeated reports to the Delhi Administration cautioning about the hazards due to heavy accumulation of firewood/logs at Mirdard Road by some firewood dealers;

(b) If so, whether the Delhi Administration have taken note of this hazard threetening the lives and property around including Ranjit Hotel Complex; and

(c) whether any action has been initiated by the Delhi Administration to evict the firewood dealers from the encroached area and if not, tentative time schedule by which action is contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) The Chief Fire Officer, New Delhi, has stated that no such report has been submitted by him to the Delhi Administration.

(b) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that it has been conducting raids from time to time for removal of encroachments from public land/footpath in the Minto Road area.

(c) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has further reported that 4 fuel and coal depots belonging to erstwhile displaced persons, have been functioning on Mirdard Road for many years now. They have been paying nominal fee charges for the land which belongs to the Land and Development office. Since they have been encroached upon adjacent land they have been served with notices by the Land and Development Officer for damages and eviction.